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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1954

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THE WEATHER: Moderate southerly winds. Cloudy.

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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Squatter Fires

In a little over a month there have been no less than six squatter fires. About 1,200 huts have gone up in smoke and about 9,000 people have been made homeless. Individually the fires were comparatively small ones but, as the figures show, their total destruction over a period was about equal to that caused by a major blaze. Granted six fires in 40 days is an abnormally high figure. But the immediate cause of concern is: are these fires going to continue at the same rate to the New Year? If so Hongkong is going to have a nightmare problem on its hands for, naturally, the building of new housing for the victims cannot possibly keep pace with the fires and the Colony will simply have an ever-growing population of literally homeless people on its hands, destitute, hungry, miserable and in many cases unemployed. The beggar population appears every week and that's only natural for if the squatter fires destroy the homes they also destroy many "cottage industries" which have grown up in these areas. A little over a month ago in this column we deplored the cynical thinking of many people in Hongkong who believe that the distribution of aid and comforts to the victims (bedding, free meals, etc.) only encourages arson. We still deplore that belief—although it is becoming more prevalent every week—because if we resorted to that kind of action it would amount to prejudging the cause of every fire which would be grossly presumptuous and, even if wide-scale arson could be proved, it would still constitute a flagrant discrimination against the majority of innocent sufferers. But certainly the abnormally high figure of six fires in 40 days suggests that the recent conflagrations were a little more than a coincidence and it would hardly be presumptuous to conclude that they were something more than a chapter of unfortunate accidents. What is even more menacing than watching hundreds of flimsy huts going up in flames and people dying and losing all their possessions is that although the Police themselves suspect arson in at least two of the six recent cases, the perpetrators of these vile acts have not been brought to justice—even though "intensive investigations" have been carried out by the authorities. Why? That's something we'd like to know. If the Police hope to catch these despicable creatures they will have to be smarter than they have been up to now. A number of courses within generally accepted Police practice offer themselves for serious study. And when the investigators are caught they deserve severe penalties. For that is the only way of advertising to others with similar intentions that this contemptible kind of crime doesn't pay.

CRUCIAL VOTE POSTPONED AGAIN!

But Tragedy Followed By A New Triumph

MR FRANCE WINS ANOTHER CONFIDENCE MOTION

Paris, Dec. 30. The French National Assembly last night put off until this afternoon its crucial vote on West German rearmament, but it gave the Government a vote of confidence, by 287 to 256, on a treaty admitting the Germans to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The Premier, M. Pierre Mendes-France, will have to wait until 4 p.m. GMT today for the key vote on which he has staked the life of his Government.

A last-minute procedural snag wrecked his hopes of getting the treaty through last night after an 11-day debate, when the Deputies seemed within a hair's breadth of taking a vote.

On the proposal of the Speaker, the Assembly accepted the ruling of the Steering Committee that the bill having been changed by the withdrawal of one of its clauses, a further 24 hours was necessary before the vote of confidence on the amended bill could properly be taken.

When the assembly committee ruled that the vote would be postponed, Communist deputies rushed the news outside to Communist demonstrators, who excitedly sang the "Marseillaise," France's national anthem.

Inside, the frustrated Premier demanded an immediate vote on the NATO treaty. He said he wanted the world to see that France was at least pressing forward with the question of the Paris agreements.

The Assembly gave him the vote though the majority in favour of the Government was smaller than when the same question was voted on last Monday. It got a majority of 38 then—compared to 31 last night. French Parliamentary procedure called for a second vote.

KEY VOTE
The vote today is the key one. It is on the Paris treaty bringing West Germany into the proposed Western European Union and putting half a million troops into Western defence.

The Assembly rejected this treaty by 280 votes to 259 in a pre-dawn vote on Christmas eve. M. Mendes-France put it back to the Deputies after nominally rewriting it.

Reuter's chief Paris correspondent Harold King reported: The debate started off in an atmosphere of serenity which had not been observed previously since the debate started 11 days ago.

The outstanding feature of the debate up to the time of the dinner adjournment was a notable speech by French Socialist leader, M. Guy Mollet, who came out in favour of the Paris agreements in the strongest possible terms. He was applauded by the Premier although it was M. Mollet, who was responsible in the beginning of November for preventing the Socialist Party from joining the Mendes-France Cabinet.

FAVOURABLE FORECASTS
Forecasting continued to be favourable. It was expected that the confidence vote on German rearmament will be adopted by a small majority of between 20 and 30 votes.

A move was made just before the dinner adjournment which was interpreted as a sign that a

favourable vote was now confidently expected. A number of deputies from all groups, except the Communists, tabled a motion to be adopted after the two confidence votes connected with the Paris agreements have been passed later tonight.

This motion is a general reaffirmation of the National Assembly "indissoluble attachment to the fundamental and indivisible principles of French policy—maintenance of Atlantic solidarity, reinforcement of European cohesion and untiring search for international understanding."

The full text of the Deputies' motion tabled in the Assembly tonight reads:

"At the end of the debate, the object of which was posed grave problems of conscience to French patriots, the National Assembly desires to reaffirm its indissoluble attachment to the fundamental and indivisible principles of French policy, and attachment which cannot be called into question by any differences about the methods of application of this policy:

(1) The maintenance of the solidarity of the members of the Atlantic Community, basis of their security;

(2) The reinforcement of the cohesion of Europe, the progressive unification of which is a factor of progress and peace;

(3) The untiring search for international relaxation of tension through the channels of diplomatic negotiations and by a four-power conference as soon as the preparation for such a conference has been sufficiently advanced.

"The National Assembly renews its determination to do everything in order to ensure the establishment between all nations of a definitive peace assured by the simultaneous and controlled reduction of armaments." — Reuter and United Press.

Parents Tested The Young Mr France

Paris, Dec. 29. A story is going around Paris about a test to which the present French Premier, M. Pierre Mendes-France, was subjected when he was young.

His parents found their son so bright — what parents do not — that they decided on the following experiment. They shut him up in a room with a bible, an apple and

a gold coin. Should he pick up the bible and read it, his parents were to make a priest out of him.

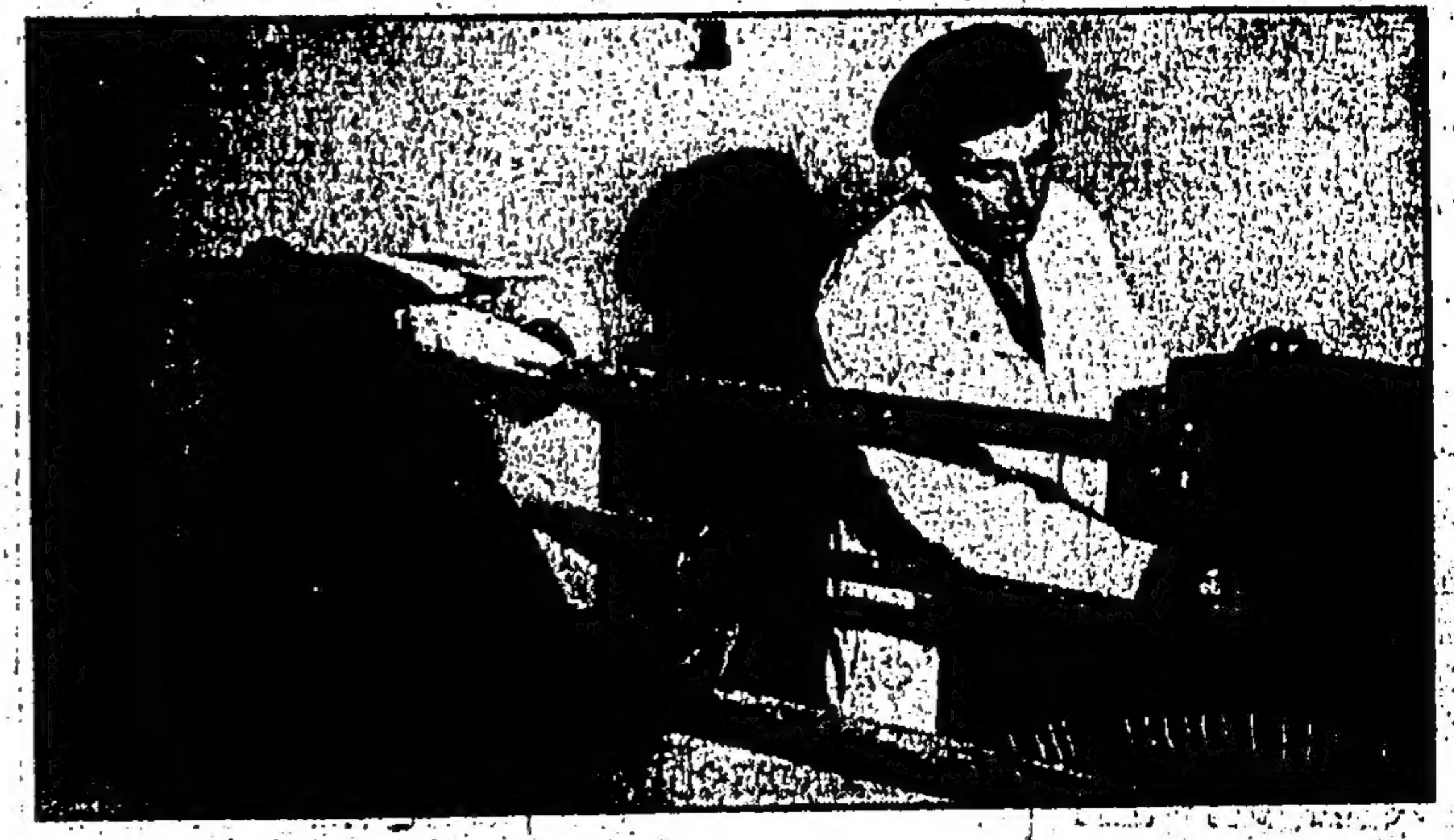
Should he prefer to eat the apple, he would become a farmer. If he pocketed the gold coin, he was to be a businessman.

A quarter of an hour later, his parents entered the room to find their son reading the bible and eating the apple while the gold coin had disappeared into his pocket.

The parents were at a loss what decision to take on the future of their son but the old grandfather, who was a wise man, said: "He will be a great statesman one day." — France Press.



LILIAN JUST LOVES JAZZ!



Jazz has no greater convert than Lilian, the pedigree Friesian, watching with bovine interest as Philip Pickerrill tucks into her favourite programme on his father's farm at Hopton, Staffordshire. In fact, Lil is so addicted to jazz that when the radio set broke down recently, the milk yield dropped until it was repaired. Philip's father, Joseph Pickerrill, installed the radio in his cowshed because he is convinced it soothes his pedigree herd and increases their milk yield.—Reuterphoto.

1,000 FLEE FROM 'ROCKING' ISLAND

Earthquakes And Eruptions Shake Mediterranean Group

Messina, Sicily, Dec. 29. Terror-stricken inhabitants of tiny Salina Island fled in panic to the Sicilian mainland tonight when a new day of violent earthquakes rocked the island.

Coast Guard launches and fishing boats hurried more than 1,000 weeping women, children and old men away from the rocking 10-square-mile island. The volcanic island of Stromboli flamed in a dangerous eruption 20 miles to the east. Scientists said Stromboli was the focal point of the havoc.

The 1,000 who fled to Sicily left behind 700 young men and landowners who hung doggedly to their homeland.

"DIE WITH OUR ISLAND"
"If this is the end of our island, we will die with it," they told Italian officials who tried to persuade them to leave.

All through the day, as on Monday, a series of violent tremors shook the island and rocks crashed down the slopes of two extinct volcanoes, which form the island, and splashed into the sea.

Red Cross officials said there was no house left habitable on Salina.

SHIPS STAND BY
Two big Italian Coast Guard ships, capable of evacuating the 700 who stayed behind, waited offshore. They kept radio communication with Messina and Palermo, the Sicilian capital.

The Coast Guard ships made intermittent trips to Stromboli where lava was pouring so rapidly down the well-worn "valley of fire" into the sea that experts on the spot proclaimed it a major eruption.

The Stromboli lava flowed sizzling into the sea at 12 miles an hour. It drove out the 150 inhabitants of the fishing village of Ginostra located 200 yards to the east of the flaming lava stream.

Internationally famous Angelo Cumini, director of the Catania Volcanology Institute, said the volcano-earthquake combination bore all the hallmarks of the disaster of 1927.

In 1927 Stromboli erupted violently and Etna, 60 miles south on the Sicilian mainland, also was roused. Salina was then the hardest-hit island, although human habitations were wiped out over the whole of the Lipari Island group.

So far no deaths have been reported on Salina or Stromboli. But uncounted scores of people suffered minor injuries.

700 WAIT
The 700 fishermen and peasants who remained on Salina huddled in groups near the shore. They feared to go inland where rocks and masonry fell and huge cracks were opening in the ground.

A police radio sending Morse messages to the mainland was the only communication available to Salina. It is expected to sound the alarm for the Sicilian authorities to enforce a total evacuation.—United Press.

The Paris Metro Gets A Perfume Spray
But Smells 'Just The Same'

Paris, Dec. 29. A trial spraying of the city's underground subway system with Paris perfumes began today—but an initial poll of travellers elicited the universal reaction that "the Metro still smells the same."

Officials of the Metro system have decided to fight its sometimes noxious aroma by installing jet stream vaporizers on the rear end of trains on two main lines.

On the Vincennes-Neaillie East-West line, the deodorant chosen was based on an unidentified brand of Eau de Cologne. On the Orleans-Clignancourt North-South line, stations were doused with "Fragrance du Fin" or plain fragrance.

MORE EXPERIMENTS
All station masters and conductors received detailed sheets of instructions on the experiment today. Each time the doors are opened by the pressing of a button, a jet stream blows the perfume into the station in perfume.

Britain's Top Box Office Star In 1954



London, Dec. 30. American screen star, Alan Ladd, and the British comedy, "Doctor in the House," were the top cinema box office attractions in Britain in 1954, according to the annual poll of film exhibitors organized by the Motion Picture Herald, results of which are announced today.

The 4,465 exhibitors, who took part in the survey, voted Jack Hawkins as the top money-making British star.

HAWKINS FIFTH
In the international list Alan Ladd is followed by James Stewart, Gregory Peck, and Martin and Lewis. Jack Hawkins takes fifth place in this section.

The only actress in the first ten is Doris Day, number eight on the list. The other places go to Danny Kaye, sixth, Burt Lancaster, seventh, Dirk Bogarde, ninth, and Norman Wisdom, tenth.

In the list of British stars who have appeared in British-made films, Jack Hawkins is followed by Dirk Bogarde, Norman Wisdom, Glynis Johns, Kenneth More, Alec Guinness, Anthony Steel, Ronald Shiner, Richard Todd and John Mills.

In its survey of box office draws in Britain, the poll gave the first three places to British films: after "Doctor in the House" came "Trouble in Store" and "The Belles of St. Trinians," two other comedies.

"PURPLE FLAIN" FISHED
The fourth was "The Glenn Miller Story" followed by "Knock on Wood," "Calamity Jane," "The Caine Mutiny," "On the Waterfront," "The Purple Flain" (British) and "Happy Ever After" (British).—Reuter.

Saturday Mail Tomorrow

Because of the New Year holiday, the Saturday Mail will be published tomorrow (instead of Saturday) with a full range of the latest and most popular features available locally and overseas.

The Big Popular Feature-packed Saturday Mail will be on sale after 11 a.m. There will be no China Mail on Saturday but normal publication will be resumed on Monday.

Look for two new attractions in tomorrow's Mail:

ATTRACTION NO. 1: Jane Roberts, China Mail film critic, picks her "Ten Best Films of the Year". That will appear on Page 2 in addition to her weekly review of current films showing in the Colony.

ATTRACTION NO. 2: Chapman Pincher, ace Science Writer of Fleet Street gives his first report on a remarkable mission... to find out from Britain's top experts what lies ahead in the Age of the Atom. Don't miss IT: THERE ANY HOPE FOR MAN?

Lord Hallahan (who still regrets he is no longer Quintin Hogg, M.P.) writes: "Play the man who must accept honors."

While Anne Sharpley suggests that when you set out on a shopping expedition, make sure you carry your well-earned best because IT IS BEHIND THE GREAT ATTRACTION AND SERVICE.

In addition to these first-class New Year features, the China Mail has a full range of home and local pictures, cartoons, comic strips, and all the regular bits you like to read when the time comes to get your dinner feet up for the evening.

11,000 Car Workers Go On Strike

Coventry, Dec. 29. Eleven thousand employees of the General Motor Company (Standard Cars) decided today to strike from eight o'clock tomorrow morning in protest against the dismissal of two union officials and the suspension of nine men.

The officials were dismissed and the men suspended in a dispute over the transfer of work from one factory to another.

The company stated that two shop stewards (union organizers) were sacked for attending an unofficial meeting and a union convenor was dismissed for addressing a meeting without permission.

REMAIN SACKED
The statement said the nine men were suspended "for failing to undertake the work for which they were employed."

A company spokesman said the management would negotiate over the suspensions when the strikers returned. He added: "Those sacked will remain sacked."

The shop stewards claimed they had been promised support in the docks where standard products would be handled. The company produces 440 cars and 250 tractors daily.—Reuter.

Mild Weather At Home
London, Dec. 30. Very mild weather more appropriate to spring than to winter, accompanied by a heavy rain, was reported from the south of England today.—Reuter.

Today's Puzzle Picture



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Only the NEW Sunbeam MIXMASTER

GIVES YOU ALL THESE ADVANTAGES:

- LIGHTER, HIGHER FINER TORQUE CAKES
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AT 2.30, 5.15 & 7.20 p.m. || AT 2.30, 5.30 & 7.30 p.m. || AT 2.30, 5.30 & 7.30 p.m.
FINAL TO-DAY — 3 SHOWS ONLY



EMPIRE GALA PREMIERE
TO-NIGHT AT 9.30 P.M.
A Chinese Picture
"SPRING IS IN THE AIR"

KING'S PRINCESS

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The BLACK SHIELD

OF FALWORTH
STARRING TONY CURTIS · JANET LEIGH
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A Universal-International Picture
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Complete Effects with
4-TRACK MAGNETIC HIGH-FIDELITY
DIRECTIONAL-STEREOPHONIC SOUND
Complimentary Tickets Are Not Valid

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TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

M-G-M'S SUMPTUOUS SONG-AND-SABRE MUSICAL

THE STUDENT PRINCE

in color!
ANN BLYTH · EDMUND PURDOM · SINGING VOICES OF MARIO LANZA
WITH PERSPECTA STEREOPHONIC SOUND!

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m. || 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

SHOWING TO-DAY

DORIS DAY AND FRANK SINATRA

Young at Heart

brings them together and puts a song in your heart!
GIG YOUNG · ETHEL BARRYMORE · DOROTHY MALONE

HOOVER

NOW SHOWING AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

"A Must for Every Lover of Thrills"

"CRIMES OF PARIS"

Starring Raymond Souplex · Jean Debucourt
Nicole Cezannes · Dora Doll
THIS IS A TRUE STORY: An actual criminal investigation based on a case which shocked the entire Paris!
ADDED ATTRACTION
BIOGRAPHY OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

GALES LASH U.S.

Thousands Of Cars Stranded In Snowdrifts FIFTEEN DEATHS

Chicago, Dec. 29.

The worst storm of the winter wrapped "thousands" of motorists in snowdrifts today and isolated entire towns as it flung snow, ice, freezing rain and tornadoes across virtually the entire United States.

At least 15 deaths were blamed on the storm which was rolling northeastward across the Great Lakes region today. Two persons were injured as a result of a plane crash in Alabama that occurred in the midst of a series of violent squalls.

One man froze to death in New Mexico, another died of exposure in Texas, five died in weather-caused Oklahoma traffic accidents and another died in a traffic skid in Illinois.

World's Best Dressed Woman Chosen

New York, Dec. 28.

The Duchess of Windsor tied for second place with a motor executive's wife in the list of the 13 best dressed women of 1954 announced here today.

Britain's Princess Margaret was voted into fourth place by fashion designers, fashion editors, society writers and social leaders.

Queen Elizabeth of England and the Duchess of Kent were "near the first 13" and had



The Duchess was Second

many admirers among the experts, a spokesman of the New York Dress Institute — which conducted the poll — said. Mrs. William Paley, wife of the President of the Columbia Broadcasting System, was named the best dressed woman. Mrs. Eisenhower, Lady Edna, wife of the British Foreign Secretary, Mrs. Loen Guinness and Madame Pierre Mendes-France, wife of the French Premier, Marlene Dietrich and Madame Chiang Kai-shek were in the "near the chosen 13" set, though unplaced. Queen Frederika of Greece and actress Grace Kelly shared 12th place, both having been chosen for the first time. — Reuter.

Cairo, Dec. 29. The British Royal Air Force aerodrome of Shalufa on the banks of the Suez Canal is to be handed over to the Egyptian Air Force tomorrow morning. The Shalufa base will be the first aerodrome to be handed over to the Egyptian authorities under the Anglo-Egyptian treaty for the British evacuation of the Suez Canal military zone. — France-Press.

MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

THE JOE LOUIS STORY

SEE THE STORY OF THE GREAT FIGHT

NDI CHANGI — THE ADVENTURES OF HAJJI BABA

Motorists were stranded in their cars along highways in Texas and Oklahoma. Many of them had been trapped for hours and had exhausted the gasoline needed to operate car heaters.

A cold wave was sifting into the area with temperatures expected to plunge to 20 below zero in the Northern plains.

The Oklahoma State Police said "thousands" of cars were stalled in Oklahoma alone.

In addition to spreading snow over a vast area of the Southwest and Middle West, the storm sparked a 3,000-acre forest fire in California, spawned thunderstorms and tornadoes that injured 22 in Mississippi and Alabama and dumped a flood of snow on New England.

Fort Scott, Kansas, was smothered by 25 inches of snow.

THUNDER & LIGHTNING thunder-and-lightning storm hit Chicago — but the downpour came as snow, sleet and hail instead of rain.

The Weather Bureau said the big storm still had not hit the height of its fury. It appeared to be building up as it headed into the heavily-populated Northeastern States. — United Press.

Party For Espionage Witnesses

Sydney, Dec. 29.

A Labour Opposition M.P. today sent an urgent telegram to the Prime Minister, Mr. R. G. Menzies, asking for details of a party given by the Secretary of the Royal Commission on Espionage and attended by witnesses.

Mr. Edward Ward sent the telegram to the White City tennis courts, where Mr. Menzies was watching the last day of play in the Davis Cup Challenge Round.

Guests at the party, held earlier this month, included Mr. and Mrs. Vladimir Petrov, the Soviet witness at the inquiry. Mr. Ward asked Mr. Menzies whether the event had been held with his (Mr. Menzies's) approval and whether any taxpayers' money was involved. He also wanted to know the names of guests and who invited them.

Dr. Herbert Evall, the Opposition leader, criticised the party as "utterly opposed to basic and well recognised judicial practice." — China Mail Special.

British Films In Spain

Madrid, Dec. 29.

Leading figures of the Spanish cinema crowded the sessions of a week's display of British documentary films held here by the British Council.

The films included many made before World War II. As they had not been shown in Spain before, however, they attracted much attention.

"Night Mail", made by the Post Office Film Unit in 1938, was described by the Spanish critic, Manuel Villegas, as "a masterpiece of the world cinema." — China Mail Special.

The Kents Off To Sandringham



The Duke of Kent, case in hand, and Princess Alexandra chatting on the platform at Liverpool Station when they left to join the Royal Family for Christmas at Sandringham. — Central Press Photo.

An argument starts over 'Dickens' forge

THIS IS IT, SAY TWO CLAIMANTS

London, Dec. 29.

The old forge at Chalk, Gravesend, which was closed some time ago, has always been considered to be the original Joe Gargery's forge made famous by Charles Dickens in Great Expectations.

This claim is disputed by Mr. C. L. Lacey, a Rochester schoolmaster, who has bought and restored the Old Forge House at High Halstow, a village nine miles from Chalk.

Mr. Lacey contends that his new home was, in fact, Joe Gargery's forge. A number of Dickensians who have visited the house support his view.

THE DOOR... Mr. Lacey bases his claim on the discovery during the reconstruction work of a doorway leading from the house to the adjoining forge. The forge has been converted into the lounge of his house.

In Dickens's novel young Pip, after discovering the convict, Magdewick, in Cooling churchyard, ran to Gargery's house and stole a pie from the kitchen and a file from the forge which he reached by a door leading straight from the kitchen.

Mr. Lacey thinks this door is the one found behind plaster work at Old Forge House. He believes that the nine miles between Cooling church and

Against skin disease and itching

Mitigal

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TOGETHER... they bring you love and terror!

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Suspicion!

Directed by ALFRED HITCHCOCK
with SIR CEDRIC HARDWICK · NIGEL BRUCE · DAME MAY WHITTY
Screenplay by SAMSON RAFFANSON · JOAN HARRISON and RUMA REVILLE
TO-MORROW: "CASANOVA'S BIG NIGHT"

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The Purple Plain

TECHNICOLOR including WIN MIN THAN
Screenplay by ERIC AMBLER · Directed by ROBERT PARRISH
Produced by JOHN BRAYAN

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La Reine Margot

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JEANNE MOREAU
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MARLON BRANDO
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MERLE QBERON
MICHAEL RENNIE
Produced by JULIAN BLAUSSON
Screenplay by HEINZ KESTER
Screenplay by DANIEL TARRADON
In the words of a top High Fidelity STEREOPHONIC SOUND

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On Our CINEMASCOPE Magic Mirror Screens!
"NEWEST TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS PROGRAMME"
Presented by 20th Century-Fox
Roxy: \$1.50, \$1.00 & 70 Cts. Broadway: \$1.20 & 70 Cts.

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SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

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I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO TALK TO THE PRESS.
DID YOU FIND ANY ILL-FEELING BETWEEN FRANCE AND BRITAIN?
NO! FORTUNATELY I'M A GOOD SAILOR!
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Waterproof Cement Paint
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KEEPING A FAMILY FIT AND WELL is not easy. You make sure they get good meals and plenty of fresh air and sleep. Yet still they pick up infections and illnesses. Can you guard against this? Yes—give them daily Ribena.

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You can give them Ribena

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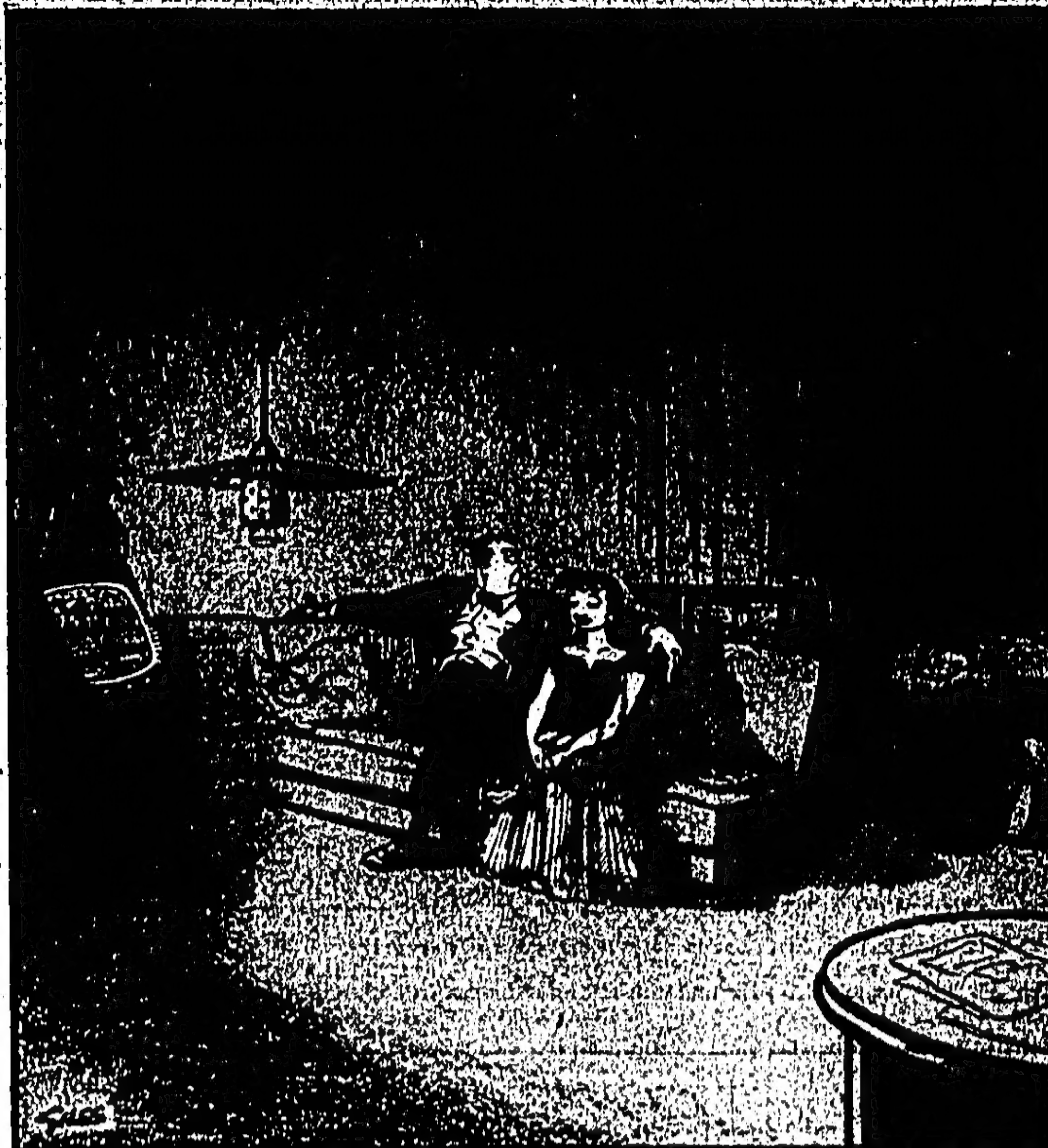
TO DOCTORS AND NURSES. The therapeutic value of Ribena for children, nursing and expectant mothers and invalids generally is fully documented in medical reports and papers.



POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

Table listing various publications and their prices, including 'Enjoyable Cookery', 'Baby Book', 'This is Hong Kong', etc.

On Sale At SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD. HONGKONG KOWLOON



"CAREFUL, GEORGE, YOUR LITTLE BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU." London Express Service

Love? They don't know HOW to make love in 1954

...SAYS THE LAST OF THE EDWARDIANS

THE pace is slow in the sleepy little residential hotel in Kensington. Elderly residents, many with canes, sip tea in the unlicensed lounge, gather round television in the evening.

Everything is a little staid, a little stuffy. Till the lady in 382 walks in.

She sometimes drinks champagne with breakfast. She wears an evening dress once owned by a Queen. She speaks six languages, describes herself as "the last of the Edwardians."

She is Mme. Betty Weingartner, fourth of the five wives of the great conductor, Felix Weingartner—"and the only one of importance"—formerly

THEY... are the younger generation, ignorant of the arts of eating, conversation and romance.

SHE... Caruso wanted to elope with her... a queen made a friend of her... a great conductor made her the fourth of his five wives.

by MARY HEWAT

Betty Callish, soubrette, opera singer, vaudeville artist, actress and leader singer.

Caruso asked her to elope with him. Nikisch, the conductor, and Gabriel Faure, the composer, played her accompaniments. Sarah Bernhardt and Mrs Patrick Campbell called her "protégée."

In a small neat bedroom of the little hotel, Mme. Weingartner, now 88, has been writing her memoirs. Memoirs dotted with names of the great, like Adeline Fatti Marconi, Melba, with the recurring theme of Caruso throughout—the "velvet-cyod" Caruso, who gave her lavish jewels, money, flowers; who offered to sing Carmen with her; who bought her French dolls because she was only "una bambina."

Sorry for them

COMING back to the world does not seem difficult for such a woman. Her skin is fresh and soft. She walks and talks like a woman of 40. Her opinions are convictions.

Her world may be gone, but she carries it with her. Dinner with Mme. Weingartner becomes a musical history lesson and a luxury voyage round the world.



MME. WEINGARTNER Champagne with breakfast.

job, 220 in her purse, accompanied by an appalling French maid who was always ill.

That time Caruso came to hear her sing "Frantz" in the "Walt Dream" at Daly's Theatre, when she found him behind the bandstand "having quite a good time" with an attractive blonde chorus girl.

Late supper

WITH the pineapple: Weingartner. Betty Callish met Weingartner at a late supper in the home of a friend in Vienna. He telephoned her at seven, the next morning to invite her to a concert, was appalled that she was not awake. "I have been working since five o'clock."

He was the greatest conductor the world has known. There is no one to touch him, she says. But he was a difficult man to live with.

DON IDDON'S DIARY Hammaraskjold Could Become A Hero

New York, Tuesday. BRITAIN is sending a handsome Christmas present to the United States, a little package of \$188,000,000, which will arrive within the next few days.



Uno's Sec-Gon

This is our fourth annual payment of principal and interest on the American Loan of 1946. Then early in the New Year, we pay another \$4,125,000—the half-year interest on funds received under Marshall Aid.

Britain has never invoked a waiver clause or pleaded for time.

I wish more Americans knew about our Christmas package. Not one in a hundred thousand has ever heard of it.

Salute to Joy

THE other day the New York World Telegram, which sometimes cuffs us for allegedly being on the cuff, said: "Almost unnoticed and despite a heavy

the U.N. is a happier place since he took over.

There was discontent in the marble halls and glass offices for months when Lie, ran the show at the foot of 42nd Street. Today anyone will tell you in the Press or delegates' lounge that morale is high.

It is impossible to avoid writing about Wall Street again this week, because Wall Street has now moved off the financial pages at the back of the newspapers to the front pages.

More records have been broken now high ground ascended, as the stocks go up and up. The boom is becoming a room.

There is so much money lying around the financial district down town that banks and brokerage houses have been handing out the biggest Christmas bonuses since the '20's.

One firm gave employees with a year or more service three to ten weeks' extra salary.

There is hardly a firm in Wall Street that hasn't been playing Father Christmas this year.

It's his turn

I AM slightly worried by all the articles which have appeared, proving positively black and white that there can never be a slump, only minor readjustments and profit-taking.

Life magazine in a slick phrase says: "Where 1929 was over-betting the future, 1954's market is just catching up with the past."

General Eisenhower was off to Georgia for the Christmas holidays with so much praise-ringing in his ears that it must have drowned out the sleigh-bells.

His Republican Party is split, the Congress has been captured by the Democrats, the Democrats, but Eisenhower's prestige is as high as when he won the election over two years ago. Everyone is against it, except the people.

I feel pretty certain that General Eisenhower in the New Year, perhaps around March, will fly to Britain to confer with the Prime Minister.

Annual conferences of the chief British and American Ministers have become a custom and a habit, and this time it is Ike's turn to make the journey.

Off for Christmas

MOST of the British stars sent away for Christmas and scattered all over the place. Leo Garmy writes from Texas, Leo Garmy from the Canary Islands, Noel Coward from Jamaica, and I saw Deborah Kerr off to Palm Beach yesterday.

There are three openings on Broadway this week and the most important is a revival of Barrie's "What Every Woman Knows," starring Helen Hayes.

Producer John Wilson is trying to lure Robert Donat to star in "The Sleeping Prince" in New York. Donat has never appeared on Broadway before in a stage play.

Seen and heard

THE man of this week is, of course, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr Dag Hammaraskjold, who takes off soon to meet Premier Chou En-lai in China.

Mr Hammaraskjold has kept out of the headlines until now. He has not been a well-known figure like his predecessor, Trygve Lie.

He has said, with more modesty than originally, "Secretaries-General should be seen and not heard." But today he is being both seen and heard.

This blond, well-dressed, quiet-voiced man appears to the Americans as a knight going to face the Chinese dragon, a gallant, rather lonely figure.

If he obtains the release of the imprisoned American citizens he will be a national and international hero. If he fails, then the prestige of the United Nations and of himself will drop drastically.

Mr Hammaraskjold is aware of this, but he says: "I have to try. I must carry out this mission."

Morale is high

SCHOLARLY, rather shy, Hammaraskjold has not up to now made the impact on the American public which the big, hearty, party-going Lie did, but

draw on the hazy ideas of the community. The community, in turn, strengthens its ideas from fiction.

Sometimes, according to the sociologists, it can be dangerous, sometimes good. For instance, we tend to form opinions of criminals from our popular ideas of villains—the human types motivated by a burning desire to smash society. Accordingly, our first impulse (usually wrong) is to knock the stuffing out of them when we catch up with them.

Heroes, too, are usually fitted into the conventional pattern. Joe McCarthy can become a sort of St. George busy slaying dragons, driven forward only by the purest of motives.

Worse, though, the guile between these hard and fast categories may be as wide as to be unbridgeable. It is often tough and goes as to which side an individual falls in. The individual may differ in his actual behavior, only a fraction from the crackpot. But once labelled crackpot, he can expect little more than abuse from society.

Mostly the general ideas governing the categories are sticky hard. But they are crystallized in fictional characters—Superman and Lois Lane, Simon Legree and Axtell, and the like. They are the models we use to judge real life.

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LOOK OUT FOR FU MANCHU

By LES ARMOUR

Take the idea of the "Red" in the United States—perhaps the most popular of 1954 villains. Most people there picture the "Red" as a sort of cross between Simon Legree and Jack-the-Ripper, with a dash of Frankenstein thrown in. But the actual definition of the character is apt to be so vague that almost anyone will suit.

On the other hand, these bold categories help to knit the community together. They foster united action and, provided the decision as to who fits into which bin is close to being right, the end result can be good.

And, according to Dr Klapp, there seems to be a tendency for the final judgment of the community to be based on individual deviations widely from the norm, his behaviour, attracts attention. An assortment of labels will be heaped on to him. He will probably be called a hero, villain and fool by different sections of the community.

Eventually, as the facts seep through, some labels will appear more accurate and more useful than others. The more the labels will probably grow, and the more they will be used to judge real life.

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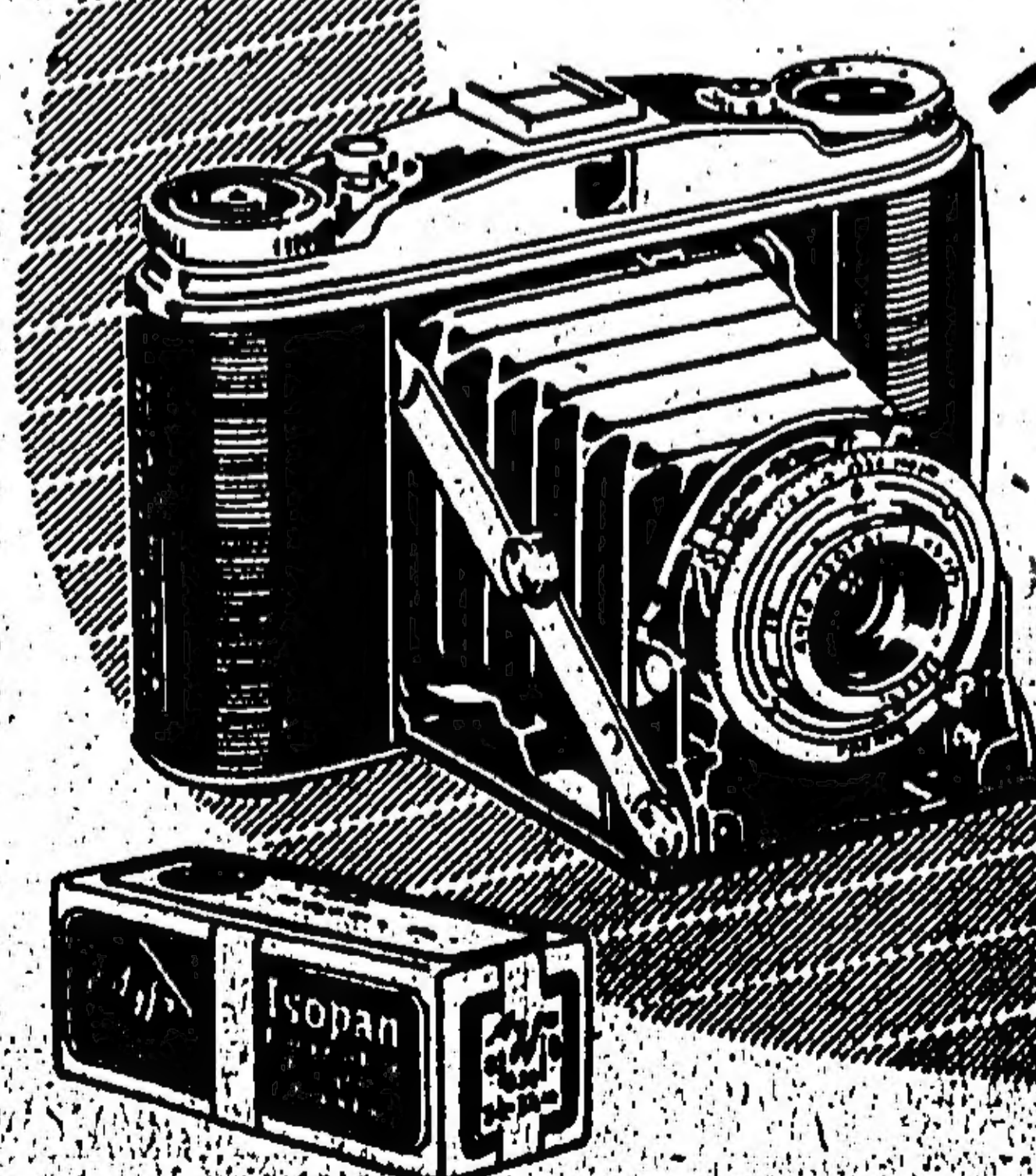
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"And how is it for sleeping?"

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

ACCORDING to a cutting sent to me, a planning official, in granting a permit to erect a two-house, stipulated that the roof must be covered with liquid cow-mare...

Pharmbutta THIRIA TANSY gave her husband, Ron, a pound of Pharmbutta for Christmas. Packed in special gift paper, this margarine to end all margarines keeps fresh for at least a year...

DUMB-BELLS

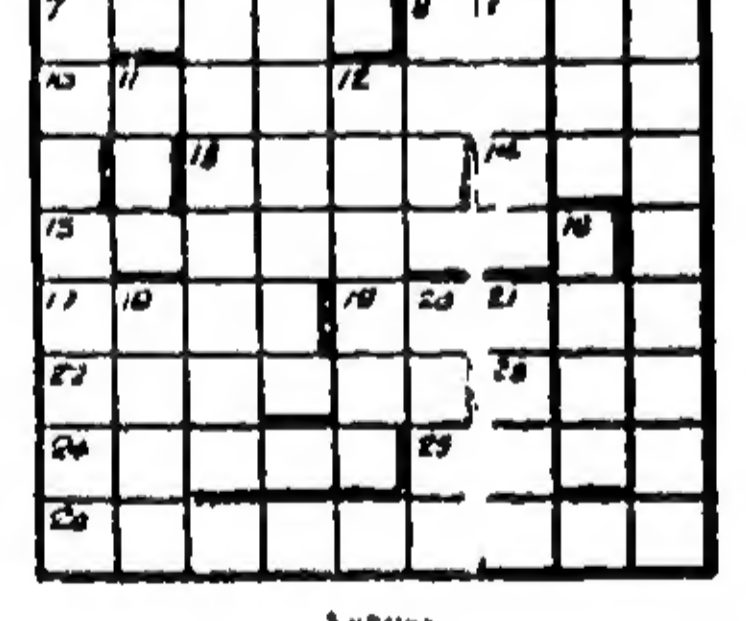


WHEN I WAS A CHILD I WAS LEFT AN ORPHAN. WHAT DID YOU DO WITH IT? Tail-piece: Those Asiatic nansen, I often read, have very lonely meanings; and indeed, I should be pleased if the Burmese could see what Lukwat Thakot Braw Tin means to me.

YOUR BIRTHDAY By STELLA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30 BIRTHDAY: today you are celebrating a birthday which will make it important for you to learn to know yourself better...

CROSSWORD



- 1. Of Paul I've taken an admirer. (9)
2. Name of golf or a piece of bread. (7)
3. Is it so cold for him on the day of the variety match? (4)
4. A king in old days is often employed one. (4)
5. Betty-like elique? (3)
6. Head of a round table wine cask. (8)
7. Tall man of the 19th. (4)
8. Peter I've light it a way. (5)
9. Cigarette not so at one? (6)
10. Often linked with milk in a glass. (3)
11. Tooth untwisted from a moral. (5)
12. One found in a or cellar. (4)
13. It's often scribbled after yours in a love letter. (5)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

- CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20) - You can end this month on an optimistic note...
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) - You are in a position to help others...
PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) - You are in a position to help others...
ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20) - This is the evening when you could end on that note...
TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21) - This could be your luckiest day of the old year...
GEMINI (May 22-June 21) - Excellent aspects for the beginning of the new year...
CANCER (June 22-July 23) - Creative ideas are in excellent aspect...
LEO (July 24-Aug. 23) - For a neutral day, you are going to be very busy...
VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) - The old year is ending favourably...
LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) - Be co-operative with others and you will find that you are really enjoying yourself...
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23) - This can be a banner day...
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 24-Dec. 23) - The old year is ending favourably...
CAPRICORN (Dec. 24-31) - This is the evening when you could end on that note...

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Expert Shows His Tricky Methods

By OSWALD JACOBY

FOR tricks that are vain and ways that are dark, some bridge players are peculiar. At least that's the way the defenders felt when today's hand was played by my associate, Alfred Sheinwald, in a recent tournament.

East began the trickery with his opening bid of two diamonds. This was meant to be a weak two-bid, but it isn't a very good sample of that sort of bid. Those experts who favour the weak two-bid are usually careful to have more strength in the suit and less outside.

If East's diamonds were headed by ace-queen-ten, with perhaps a queen or so outside, there would be some logic to the bid.

West naturally opened the seven of diamonds against the actual contract of three no-trump. East carefully played the discouraging deuce, and Sheinwald usual won the trick with the jack of diamonds.

The idea as to give East the impression that West had the jack and nine of diamonds. West

Bridge hand diagram showing North, South, East, and West cards and tricks.

would surely lead the seven if he had J-9-7 of the suit, and then the suit would be within one trick of establishment.

After his tricky play at the first trick, Sheinwald led the nine of spades. West played low, dummy ducked, and so did East. This was correct play on the part of the defender.

As expected, East led another diamond, whereupon Sheinwald produced the nine of diamonds to win the trick. While East mumbled something explosive and uncomplimentary, South led a heart to force an entry to the dummy. There was now no way to stop declarer from winning the trick; five spades, a heart, three diamonds, and a club.

Now see what happens if South wins the first trick with the nine of diamonds, exposing the true situation in this suit. When East wins the queen of spades, two tricks later, he shifts to the jack of clubs. South must duck, and the ten of clubs is led. South ducks again, whereupon West overtakes with the queen of clubs to lead the jack of hearts.

CARD SENSE

Q-With neither side vulnerable, the bidding has been: North East South West 1 Spade 1 Clubs Pass Pass Double Pass ?

Q-As Pass, you are delighted to have the chance to defend against a doubled club contract. Note that your hand was not worth an immediate double over two clubs, since there was no point in driving the enemy out of the only contract that you liked and at the same time making your partner wonder whether or not your hand was good for anything else.

TODAY'S QUESTION. The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades 9-8-2, Hearts Q-J-9-2, Diamonds Q-J-7-5, Clubs none. What do you do?

WOMANSENSE

Woolen Afternoon Coat



"Plepus," by Pierre Clarence, a black woolen afternoon coat highlighted by a silk scarf with a jewel-studded clasp.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

If you hear a hammering chamber is needed to take care of the water pressure. Never use a good knife as a pancake turner; the heat can damage the blade.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

An Unwise Man in Green

By MAX TRELL

KNARF and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, had crept inside the Mother Goose Book. This is how they did it. They squeezed through the little door that led them behind the bookcase and here they found all the books with little gardens and gates, exactly like pretty houses. In front of each of the houses was a sign reading, Mother Goose Book, Alice in Wonderland, Robinson Crusoe, and so on.

Entering A Book Knarf and Hanid went into the one marked Mother Goose Book.

It was like being inside a big house. They walked through a long hallway and down a flight of stairs—and then they came to another door which led out into another garden.

Here they came on a man dressed in a bright green suit. The suit was all torn and covered with patches in different colours. He wore big, horn-rimmed spectacles. He was reading out of an enormous book, much bigger than he was himself. Every time he had to turn a page, he had to get up and push with all his might.

He was just pushing one of the pages when Knarf and Hanid came up to him.

"Hello," said Knarf. "Good evening," replied the man in bright green suit. "Oh, it isn't evening, it's daytime," said Hanid with a laugh. "Look—the sun is shining!"

At this, the man blinked up at the sun and said: "Dear me, you're quite right."

"What are you reading in that big book?" Knarf asked.

"It's a book of rules," the man said. "For instance, suppose you want to become wise—"

"You go to school," said Hanid.

The man shook his head. "That isn't what the book says. Here, I'll show you. It's on page 26."

With many grunts of ough-ugh, the man pushed the pages over until he reached page 26.

"Ah, there's the rule!" he exclaimed, pointing at the page.

Knarf and Hanid looked over his shoulder. There in big letters, they read: "To be wise, jump in a bramble bush!"

"I don't see how that can make you wise!" Hanid said.

"I'll just show you," said the man.

As it happened, there was a bramble bush growing on the other side of the garden. Before

Stretching Your Wardrobe For The Holiday Season

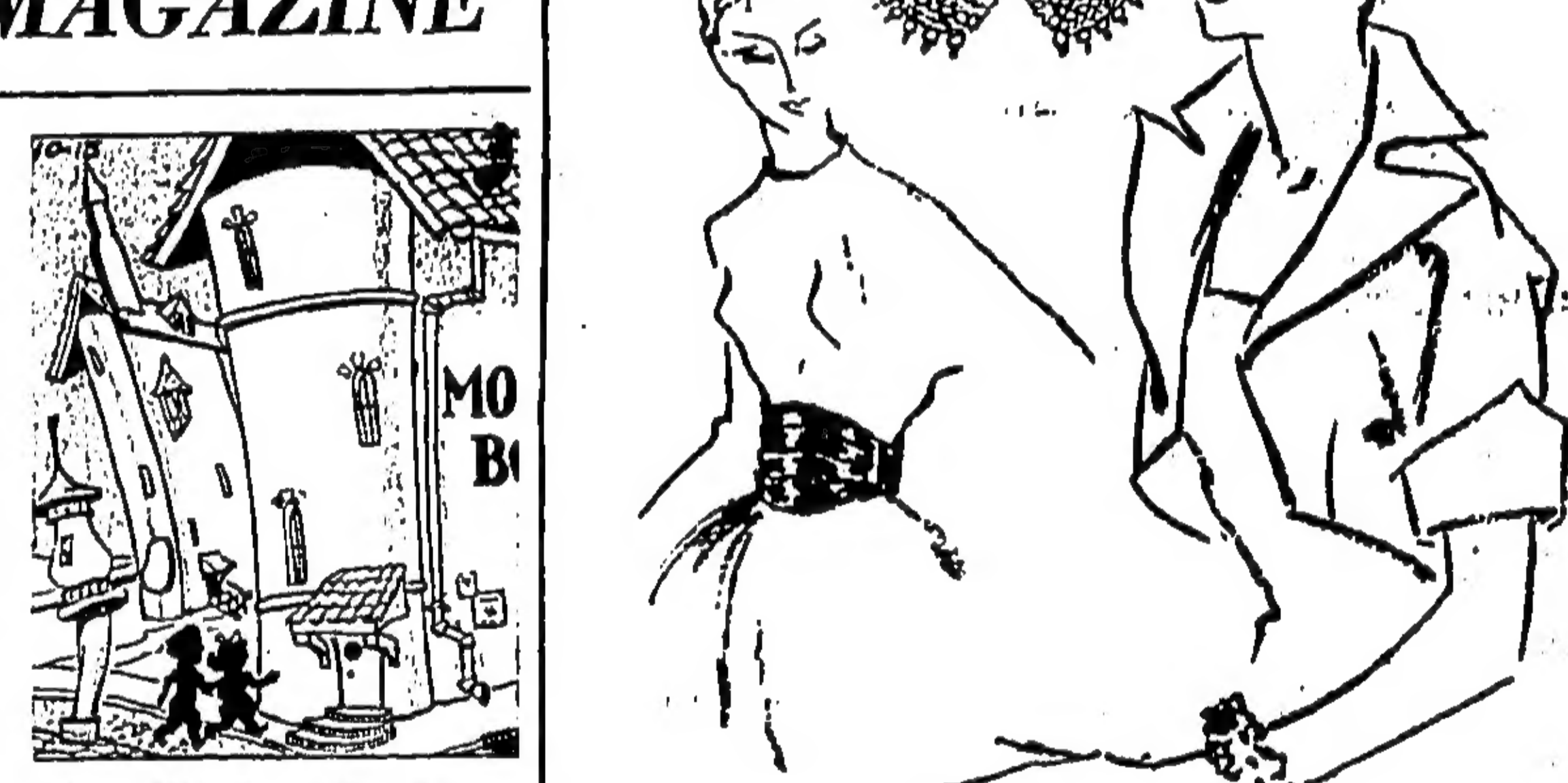
New York. A BASIC dress is always a boon to the wardrobe, but during the holiday season it's worth its weight in gold. It conforms to a variety of moods with a simple change of accessories and with fashion's scoring of the top of the figure you can employ all the neck-wear, little bits of fur and jewelled touches to achieve new and different effects.

Available in the stores is a wondrous array of collars and scarfs. Collars flat and favouring Peter Pan shapes are done in beautiful pastel leathers; they are embroidered and jewelled in many cases. Soft, fur-like angora is another popular touch on winter's woollens and you can make your own little angora collar and glamourise it with iridescent sequins, or pearl trimming. Pale coloured stripes with white are delicate in texture; velveteen is rich in turquoise, hot pink; lame in silver with pink or blue as well as traditional gold.

To conform to the scoop or shallow neckline are a variety of all-in-gilet type neckpieces. You'll find gold lame with a tiny turtle roll edge a wonderful camouflage. Safin, one of winter's smartest accent fabrics, makes another very wearable gilet finished with pointed collar. They take to the jewelled necklace or spaghetti tie in velvet, the latter in a



minutes, and you'll work out some interesting changes for your simple little tweed or broadcloth sheath.



The Shadows went into a house marked Mother Goose Book.

Knarf or Hanid could stop him, the man in the bright green suit jumped right in the middle of the bramble bush.

Knarf and Hanid pulled him out. He was all full of scratches. There were more tears in his beautiful green suit, but worst of all, his horn-rimmed spectacles had come off.

With his spectacles off, the poor man couldn't see very well.

"That wasn't very wise," said Knarf, "to lose your spectacles."

But the man in the green suit said: "Please turn to page 27 in the big book you'll find the rule that tells you what to do in this case."

A Nice Compliment But Knarf and Hanid didn't bother looking in the book. Knarf simply got the horn-rimmed spectacles from the man's nose and—My goodness! I can see as well as ever again! I do think you two are wiser than my book!

Then he reached in his pocket and gave them each a stick of candy. It was the wisest thing he could have done, and the nicest.

At top left, a handsome buckled stole in red wool jersey. At top right, a five-inch striped silk scarf ties in a crisp half bow; below, a fluffy fox collar to match wool or cashmere cardigan, or edge the neckline of a simple dress. Below it, a white angora collar with iridescent paillettes ties in a little bow and below, to its left, a crocheted collar of silver and gunmetal pearls which doubles as costume jewellery also. On the figure at bottom right is one of many pert velveteen boleros in black, white or a gay festive colour such as turquoise or hot pink. To its left a pleated velveteen belt dresses up a simple dress.

Rupert and the Magic Ball-8



When Christmas is over, life in the cottage calms down without any explanation of the mystery of the firing parcel. "I wish it would fly back to me," sighs Rupert. "Well, try and forget it for a while," smiles Mrs. Bear. "I want you to get to the village and buy some things for me." So Rupert sets off. On the way he passes a field, there are some of my pals playing football. "He says that means that one of them had a ball for Christmas even though I didn't. I'll hurry back and get them."

Advertisement for Paquerette dresses, featuring the text 'Rupert's Latest Adventure RUPERT and the HOLIDAY SHIP \$1.00' and 'Paquerette' logo.

Billy Wright—He Has Given British Soccer A Lifeblood Injection

With his fair, tousled hair, athletic frame and clear blue eyes Billy Wright does not look a doctor. Professionally speaking, he is not. But he has given English soccer a lifeblood injection, and the once chronic invalid is well on the way to recovery.

A year ago Wright led a dispirited England side from the Wembley pitch after that 6-3 thrashing by Hungary. Six months later there was a repeat performance. This time it was in Budapest, and the score was 7-1 to Hungary. England was written off as a soccer force.

But Billy Wright did not think England finished. He was sure her football and her methods could again lead the world. Within six months he has been proved right. At Molineux Stadium early this month it was a proud Wright who led off victorious Wolves. Wolves had beaten Hungary's Honved, rated the finest club side in the world, 3-2. And this followed the 6-0 drubbing Wolves gave Moscow Spartak, which put English soccer back on top.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB SIXTH RACE MEETING

Monday 27th December 1954 & Saturday 1st January 1955
The Programme will consist of 18 races.
The First Race will be run at 12 o'clock NOON and the First Race run at 12.30 p.m. on both days.
The interval is after the Third Race (1.30 p.m.) on both days.
The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 10.30 a.m. on both days.
MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE
NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED.
All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.
Admission Batches at \$10.00 each per day are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him.
Tickets will be obtainable at the Club House if ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 72811).
NO CHILDREN will be admitted to the Club's premises during the Meeting. For this purpose a Child is a person under the age of seventeen years, Western Standard.
PUBLIC ENCLOSURE
The price of admission will be \$3.00 each per day payable at the Gate.
Any person leaving the Enclosure will be required to pay the requisite fee of \$3.00 in order to gain re-admission.
MEALS and REFRESHMENTS will be obtainable in the RESTAURANT.
SERVANTS
Servants must remain in their employer's boxes except for passing through on their duties. They may on no account use the Betting Booths in the Members' Betting Hall.
CASH SWEEPS
Through Cash Sweep Tickets at \$18.00 each for the second day of the Meeting may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices during normal office hours until 10.30 a.m. on 1st January.
Particular numbers within the series 1 to 4,000 may be reserved for all race meetings as Through Tickets. Such tickets will be issued consecutively only and the right is reserved by the Stewards to cancel any reservation for Through Tickets for a particular Meeting if its total sales may not reach the number reserved in the series 1 to 4,000.
In the case of two-day Race Meetings, Through Tickets may be purchased for each day of the Meeting provided that the second day is on a date not less than five days after the first day. In all other cases Through Tickets will only be sold for the whole Meeting.
Tickets reserved and available but not paid for by 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 24th December, 1954, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future Meetings.
Tickets over 4,000 will also be issued consecutively but particular numbers cannot be reserved as Through Tickets.
The reservation of any particular number does not confer on the registered holder any rights whatsoever unless the ticket bearing the appropriate number is issued to and can be produced by the holder.
The Stewards reserve the right to refuse any subscription also the right to remove any name from subscription lists without stating reasons for their action.
Cash Sweep Tickets on the last race of the Meeting at \$2.00 each may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building, (Chater Road), 5, D'Algal Street and 382, Nathan Road during normal office hours and until 10.30 a.m. on both days of the Meeting.
SPECIAL CASH SWEEP
Tickets for the Special Cash Sweep on the Pearce Memorial Cup scheduled to be run on 22nd January, 1955, at \$2.00 each, may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices.
TOTALISATOR
Backers are advised not to destroy or throw away their tickets until after the "all clear" signal has been exhibited.
ALL WINNING TICKETS AND TICKETS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THE RACE OFFICES ON THE DAY TO WHICH THEY REFER, NOT LATER THAN ONE HOUR AFTER THE TIME FOR WHICH THE LAST RACE OF THE DAY HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE RUN.
PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE ON TORN OR DISFIGURED TICKETS.
Bookmakers, Tip Tac men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.
By Order of the Stewards,
H. MISA,
Secretary.



Wolves' and England's Billy Wright.—Express Photo.

SPLENDID SERVICES HKFA Farewell To Jack Skinner

"In sincere appreciation of splendid services rendered to the Association in particular, and to soccer in general 1935-1954" read the inscription on the silver plated shield presented to Mr Jack Skinner, former Chairman of the Hongkong Football Association, by the Hon. Kwok Chan, President of the HKFA, at a farewell cocktail party for Mr Skinner, held at the Hongkong Club last night.

Mr Skinner is shortly going home on retirement. He was the Chairman of the HKFA since 1947. The Hon. Kwok Chan, speaking prior to the presentation, said in part: "An occasion like this, on which we are gathered together to say farewell to an old friend, is generally both a sad and a happy one—sad because we are shortly losing an old friend, happy because he is going away to enjoy a well-earned retirement."

"It is, therefore, with very mixed feelings that I perform this function of making a presentation on behalf of the Hongkong Football Association to our old friend Mr Skinner—known to us more intimately as Jack. Jack is shortly leaving us for good, after having spent the best part of his life out here. "Those of us who have the privilege of knowing him have always been aware of the many splendid services which he has rendered to this Colony. Particularly in the field of sports he has established a fine record of service which I believe is not easy to surpass. Starting from the ranks, so to say, as an active football player, he has risen to the exalted position of chief executive of the governing body of football, and later to that of chief executive of the highest governing body of All Amateur Sports, in both of which his wealth of experience has stood him in good stead.

"Gentlemen, I am not going to sing his praises—that would be an unnecessary and unnecessary—I shall only say that during his stay here he has endeared himself to us all by his kindness, sociability and consideration, as well as by his constant cheerfulness, good fellowship and sympathy—qualities which will make him friends wherever he goes. "We have now come to the stage at which we must part. Very unwillingly we have to say good-bye, only hope that it will be just "au revoir" because with the modern conveniences of travel there is little difficulty for him to come back—just only just to look us up. "Mr Skinner, on behalf of the Hongkong Football Association I have much pleasure in asking you to accept as a parting gift from us this shield of the Association in token of our great regard and esteem, and in wishing you and Mrs Skinner many more years of good health and happiness."

Mr Skinner replying, stated that he entered football from the time he kicked a can about on a field till he took up football really seriously. However, he said, it had been his greatest pleasure to be in football in Hongkong. "We have accomplished much sometimes, we have disagreed violently but then there must be disagreements," he said.

The Association, he continued, had changed enormously. Council members in the old days were elected because they were sincerely interested in football in Hongkong and not because they were representatives of clubs. Hongkong has now entered an international sphere in soccer. Our Council is not going fast enough," stated Mr Skinner. The Association has not got continually. The FA is concentrating more on the local side of things, and not enough on the international side.

"There should be a five-man committee, elected not from view of being club representatives, but from view of their interest in soccer in Hongkong," he said. In conclusion, Mr Skinner said "thank you all for the many, many happy hours and years I have spent here in Hongkong."

The Hon. Kwok Chan then proposed a toast to Mr Skinner. Mr Jack McKelvie, Vice-President of the FA was the last speaker. He seconded Mr Skinner's suggestion of a five-man council. Mr McKelvie concluding also proposed a toast to Mr Skinner. Those present were: Hon. Kwok Chan (President of the Hongkong Football Association), Mr Jack McKelvie (Vice-President), Col. J. A. Dawson (Vice-President), Mr C. S. Wang (Chairman), Messrs L. G. Young, T. Dyer, L. J. Channing, Pat George, Raleigh Leung, Tom Swadlow, Maximo Antonio Chang, Leslie Louisy, J. A. Kearney, R. M. Omar, Lo Chun-huen, Capt W. A. George, F. H. H. A. Hides, Insp. J. H. Goodman and Major C. D. Eirik.

COLONY RECORD FOR THE MILE RUN GOES AT BOUNDARY STREET

By "RECORDER"

The Colony record for the One Mile Run was reduced to 4 minutes 32.1 seconds at a small friendly triangular meeting at the Army ground, Boundary Street, yesterday by Lt Keith Burch of the 1st Battalion, The Essex Regiment, running for the HKAAC.

It was a solo effort that brought the figures down as Lt Burch was on his own after the first lap. He clocked 63 seconds for the first circuit with Mike Curzon of the HKAAC in hot pursuit, but Curzon dropped out on the second lap quite convinced that he was not yet in condition for two races in one afternoon.

Burch continued to clock 68 seconds for the second lap, 69 for the third and 72 for the last. The three timekeepers all caught him in 4:32.1 for the full distance and the track was later re-measured by three officials of the HKAAC and one from the RNAC and found to be longer than 440 Yards.

The old Colony record of 4 minutes 35.3 seconds was established by Joseph Patrick ("Paddy") MacMahon, then with the Hongkong Signal Regiment, in the Army Championships of 1952 in a race the Royal Ulster Rifles, S/Sgt. Peter West of the Royal Engineers (now a ranking Six-Miler in the United Kingdom), and C. N. Brand, Frank Taylor of REME. It is quite possible that MacMahon ran a little further than did Lt. Burch yesterday as the course has since been re-surveyed and corrected.

Yesterday's meeting was a very informal one and, though announced as a triangular match, no points were counted as University could only produce a team of six and the Diocesan Boys' School did not compete in any of the throwing events.

Quite a few Servicemen turned out in response to an invitation that they could "have a bash" at any event if they wanted to and there were as many as 13 starters in the 800 Yards, which proved the most popular event of the day.

Very noticeable was a small informal team of three from R. C. Boddy and J. T. Hanson—who found their land legs sufficiently to place in five events and compete in twice as many as that. This was a remarkably good effort against opposition which, if not in Colony Championship class, contained at least one or two outstanding performers in each event.

Except for the new Colony Mile record, a fast 2:09.7 in the 800 Yards by Mike Curzon, a javelin throw of 164 ft. 3 ins. by C. N. Brand, a modest 23.6 seconds for the 220 by Stephen Xavier and a challenging 24.0 by University's Fung Kai-lee and Club's D. H. Clouting, performances were on the moderate side though quite reasonable in the three jumping events.

Outstanding schoolboy performance was that of Alan Mok, whose 2:14.2 in the Half Mile was good time for the Boundary Street track. His second place against much more experienced runners, in a big field and against a pace that was too fast for him was an achievement to take pride in.

The University were without two of their best performers—Victor Lai and Ng Chuan-wai—but still managed to take 13 places with a six-man team, including three firsts.

Samuel Lo of DBS was the afternoon's "iron man", placing in the 220 Yards, 440 Yards, 120 Yards Hurdles and Long Jump. Tsang Kai-lee, who had won the HKAAC Cup this season's best in the High Jump to 5 feet 6 inches—very promising at this early stage, but lost out to University's Goh Tio-beng in the Long Jump.

Roy Bell, the Novices' 440 Yards Hurdles Champion, was rather surprised by taking the 440 Flat in a fair 58.9 seconds.

The good turnout of athletes served to prove once again that there is considerable interest in meetings of more moderate calibre than Colony Open or Championship, which normally frighten out the non-Championship aspirants.

THE SUMMARIES
100 Yards (1st race): 1. David Toh (DBS) 11.0 sec.; 2. D. H. Clouting (HKAAC) 11.0 sec.; 3. Hool Seng-tuck (HKAAC) 11.1 sec.; 4. Wong Wing-tung (DBS) 11.2 sec.
100 Yards (2nd race): 1. Fung Kai-lee (HKAAC) 10.7 sec.; 2. B. Brunwell (HKAAC) 11.2 sec.; 3. Hanson (HMS Birmingham) 11.4 sec.; 4. Janus (DBS) 11.4 sec.
220 Yards (1st race): 1. Stephen Xavier (HKAAC) 23.6 sec.; 2. Hool Seng-tuck (HKAAC) 23.6 sec.; 3. Samuel Lo (DBS) 23.8 sec.; 4. B. Brunwell (DBS) 24.2 sec.
220 Yards (2nd race): 1. Fung Kai-lee (HKAAC) 24.0 sec. and 2. H. Clouting (HKAAC) 24.0 sec. (dead heat); 3. David Toh (DBS) 24.2 sec.; 4. Wong Keng-kung (DBS) 24.2 sec.
440 Yards: 1. Roy Bell (HKAAC) 69.9 sec.; 2. A. Campbell (HKAAC) 70.2 sec.; 3. Samuel Lo (DBS) 71.2 sec.; 4. H. Stewart (DBS) 71.2 sec.
120 Yards: 1. M. P. Curzon (DBS) 2 m. 14.2 s.; 2. Wong Kai-lee (HKAAC) 2 m. 19.7 s.; 3. R. C. Boddy (HMS Birmingham) 2 m. 19.9 s.

One Mile: 1. K. Burch (HKAAC) 4 m. 32.1 s. (New Colony record subject to confirmation); 2. J. Smith (HKAAC) 4 m. 59.5 s.; 3. Hanson (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 4. Gollac (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 5. Ritchie (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 6. Samuel Lo (DBS) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 7. Wong Kai-lee (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 8. Goh Tio-beng (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 9. Lee Pei-him (DBS) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 10. Tsang Kai-lee (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 11. Fung Kai-lee (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 12. H. Clouting (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 13. H. Clouting (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 14. H. Clouting (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.; 15. H. Clouting (HKAAC) 5 m. 1.0 s.

The tournament golf professionals in dispute with the British Professional Golfers' Association, the ruling body, have formed their own committee. It comprises members from all parts of Britain and Ireland, with Henry Cotton as Honorary Secretary. Jimmy Adams, Chairman of the new Committee, said today: "We are a fully representative body who will look after the interests of the players at tournaments. The new Committee will negotiate with the Professional Golfers' Association Executive Committee if required."

The new Committee represents about 100 "rebels" who were dissatisfied with their representation on the Executive of the PGA.—Reuter.

Officials and members of affiliated clubs are reminded that the farewell presentation to Mr Jack Skinner, past President of the Amateur Sports Federation and Olympic Committee, will be held at the Hongkong Football Club Pavilion this evening commencing at 8 p.m. Mr Jack Skinner, will be leaving shortly for home on retirement and this function will probably be the last opportunity for members to meet him as the official and honoured guest of the Federation.

Mr Myrick, in reply, said that in staging next year's challenge round at Forest Hills they could not hope to equal the magnificent setting of White City "because that would be impossible."

But his Association would do its best, he added. Most of the players were called to the microphone and spoke of the excitement and friendship that had marked the Challenge Round. Tony Trabert expressed the hope that "we have been as humble as friendly and as nice in winning as we were in losing."

United States lost the Challenge Round to Australia in four consecutive years from 1950 to 1953 inclusive.—Reuter.

One would imagine that any player as small as Wright would be beaten with ease in the air. But he has a spring in his body that sends him up and over the tallest of centre-forwards. It's never merely a case of reaching the ball, Wright puts tremendous power in his heading and keeps his eyes rivetted on the ball. He commands the area he patrols, and thus more than justifies his choice as a centre-half.

ALONE AT 14

Billy was alone in Wolverhampton as a boy of 14. A family took him into their home and looked after him. The husband has since died, but Billy's foster-mother is still one of his staunchest supporters.

She is one of many players, officials and fans all over the world who at some time or other have had reason to admire his qualities.

This season Wright has come out tops against such redoubtable centre-forwards as Simonian of Moscow Spartak and John Charles of Wales, the lesser known Seiler of Germany, and the best in the English League.

Nobody has yet defined the difference between brilliant and great. But as far as British football fans are concerned, Billy Wright qualifies for the latter title. (London Express Service)

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB ANNUAL RACE MEETING 1955

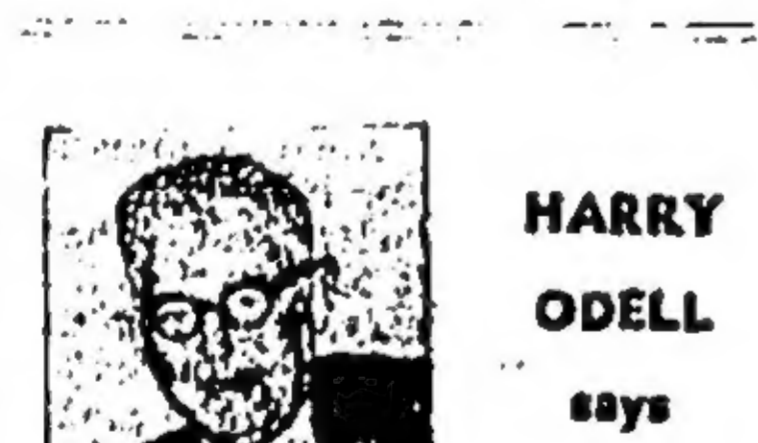
15th, 19th and 22nd January and Hong Kong Derby — 9th April, 1955.

Draft Programmes and Entry Forms for the above may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Alexandra House; the Club House, Happy Valley; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close to the Secretary, Alexandra House, 8th Floor, at NOON on Tuesday, 4th January, 1955.

Please enclose the entry form in the green envelope provided.

By Order of the Stewards,
H. MISA,
Secretary.



HARRY ODELE says

For many here, perhaps the chance of a life-time to hear as great a pianist as JULIUS KATCHEN, and at the popular price of \$4.70. I do not believe that a genuine music lover or student of music will find this price high for such a great artist. Please book now at the

EMPIRE THEATRE Town Booking Office, Shell House, side lane.



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Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CANTON"	10th Jan., 1955	10th Jan., 1955
"CHUSAN"	10th Jan., 1955	10th Jan., 1955
"CARTHAGE"	10th Feb., 1955	10th Feb., 1955
"CORFU"	2nd Mar., 1955	7th Mar., 1955

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore.

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CANTON"	14th Jan., 1955	14th Feb., 1955
"CHUSAN"	2nd Feb., 1955	2nd March, 1955
"CARTHAGE"	11th Feb., 1955	14th March, 1955
"CORFU"	11th Mar., 1955	11th Apr., 1955

Via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London.

FREIGHT SERVICE

"SUDAN" loads 5/11th Jan. for Suez, Port Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, Havre, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg.

"SOMALI" loads 9/11th Jan. for Kobe, Yokohama & Otaru.

"SOMALI" loads 3/4th Feb. for same ports as "SUDAN" above.

With liberty to call at Belawan before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if inducement offers.

Tanks available for carriage of Oil in Bulk. Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited Passenger accommodation.

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"SANTILA" due 10th Jan. from Japan for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta.

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"ORDLA" due 10th Jan. from Japan for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Karachi, Dacca, Kanton, Amoy & Kowloon.

"OZARDA" due 10th Jan. from Japan for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Colombo, Karachi, Dacca, Kanton, Amoy & Kowloon.

"OKILA" due 14th Jan. from Japan for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta.

"OLINDA" due 15th Jan. from Japan for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"EASTERN" due 6th Jan. from Australia sails 7th Jan. for Japan.

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

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Price, 20 cents per copy, Saturdays 30 cents, Subscription: \$6.00 per month.

Postage: China and Macao \$3.00 per month, U.K. British Possessions and other countries \$7.00 per month.

News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the Secretary.

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20 WORDS \$4.00 FOR 1 DAY PREPAID

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Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal \$5.00 per insertion not exceeding 25 words, 25 cents each additional word.

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FOR SALE

THIRTYTHREE GRAMMOPHONES - Good condition, hardly ever used, \$200 or more offer. Sale only because of owner's departure from Colony. Box 204 "The Mail".

INDIA White opaque air mail envelopes size 10 x 4 1/2 for \$1.20, 100 for \$10. Obtainable at "S. C. M. Post".

WANTED KNOWN

MORFAT WHIPPING for all party occasions. It is an excellent Whipping Cream at a most reasonable price. 11 oz. tin \$1.20, 5 1/2 oz. tin \$0.75. Also Morfat 20 a fine table Cream. 11 oz. tin \$1.25. Obtainable at all grocers.

HAUGHIE PACKING CONTRACTOR for personal household and effects, supply packing cases, paraffin, immediate delivery materials. 223 Kennedy Road, Tel. 2171.

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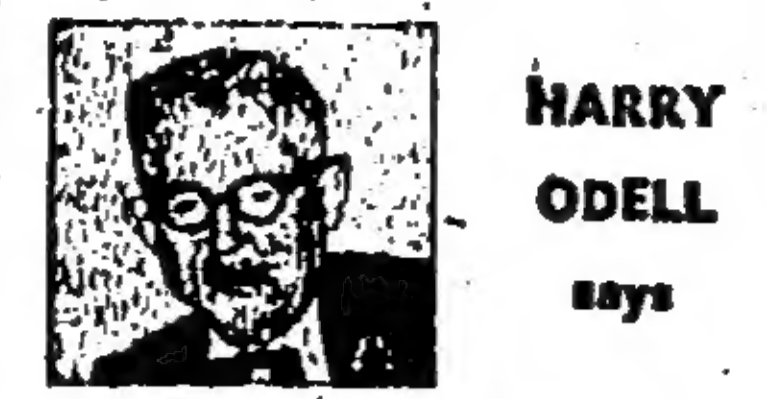
SOMETHING NEW AND EXCLUSIVE. Fresh stocks received of collectors' packets of assorted stamps. From 20 cents per packet upwards. An entirely new series. South China Morning Post Ltd., Wyndham Street and Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

NOTICE

BANK HOLIDAY

The Exchange Banks will be closed for the transaction of public business on Saturday, 1st January 1955. (The first week day in January).

Hongkong, 30th Dec., 1954.



HARRY ODELL says

For many here, perhaps the chance of a life-time to hear as great a pianist as **JULIUS KATCHEN**, and at the popular price of \$4.70. I do not believe that a genuine music lover or student of music will find this price high for such a great artist. Please book now at the

EMPIRE THEATRE

Town Booking Office, Shell House, side lane.

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD space for commercial advertising should be booked not later than noon on Wednesdays.

For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 48 hours before date of publication. Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

No Uniforms For W. German Tin Soldiers

Nuernberg, Dec. 29. West Germany's toy-makers say they missed out on a lot of pre-Christmas business because they were unable to turn out tin soldiers with authentic West German uniforms, which are still to be decided on.

One manufacturer wrote to West Germany's "Shadow" Defence Ministry, headed by Herr Theodor Blank, saying, "Please let me have a few illustrations of the new German soldier's uniforms so I can satisfy the demands of my customers."

The manufacturers said that there had been no reply yet and that the toy exhibition scheduled for this spring may or may not be able to show the authentic tin soldiers.

TRIED BUT FAILED

One producer tried but failed to corner the Christmas market by selling tin soldiers without insignia or medals.

Another producer replens of soldiers of the occupation troops whose uniforms are known. He refused to say how sales were.

Once the new German uniforms are known "we expect a tin soldier boom which will mean employment for more workers in the toy industries," one producer said. —United Press.

Headache Pills For M.P.s.

Copenhagen, Dec. 29. Danish caricaturists have been given a wonderful opportunity of making local politicians by the discovery that some 4,000 headache pills have been consumed in the Danish Parliament during the past year.

These headache pills are available at a small office near the debating chamber so that worried members can obtain a little relief before engaging in hearty debates.

Some politicians, who felt themselves insulted by this discovery maintain that the principal sufferers from headaches are the parliamentary officials and not the members. —China Mail Special.

Kissing In Public Offends Turkish Morals

Istanbul, Dec. 29. Turkish police have been investigating a complaint by an Istanbul taxi-driver, Hassan Eryuksel, that a couple who hired his cab recently had been kissing in the back seat.

If a charge is brought against them and they are found guilty, the accused are liable to a prison sentence of from one day to one month, and fines ranging from five to fifty Turkish pounds (from 12s. 6d. to about \$7 sterling).

The public expression of affection is a criminal offence in Turkey. Strictly, a Turk who kisses his wife good-bye on a railway station can be charged with offending public morals. In fact, the police often turn a blind eye to such obviously harmless effusions.

Nevertheless, a man and his wife seen kissing in the street in Izmir were recently taken to a police station for questioning. They were released with a warning to restrain their ardour until they reached home.

CASE DISMISSED

There was some criticism of the law by Ankara newspapers a few weeks ago when a Belgian girl and her Turkish sweetheart were taken to court on a charge of kissing and cuddling in the back row of a cinema. The judge dismissed the case.

As a result of the law's severe attitude, there are no lovers' lanes in Turkey. The embraces which pass unnoticed in London's parks or the Paris underground would be considered scandalous here.

In private conversation some Turks criticise this attitude, which they regard as over prudish. Others defend the law as being necessary to prevent indecent behaviour in public.

For although public expression of tender feelings may be forbidden, the visitor to Turkey is presented with ample proof that the Turks are far from impervious to feminine charms.

Almost every news-stand in the big towns displays a selection of Turkish periodicals

which are as full of hours as is the Moslem paradise. Many book-shops carry huge stocks of American "girlie" magazines, and the leading newspapers devote much space to beauty contests and photographs of scantily-dressed film stars.

The American citizen whose photograph appears most often in Turkish newspapers is unquestionably Marilyn Monroe, with Jane Russell a close second.

Some foreigners in Turkey consider that the Turkish attitude to women still shows traces of the harem mentality, in spite of emancipation of women after the National Revolution. One French visitor said recently: "In Turkey you see few dogs and few women; because the Turks don't like dogs at all, and like women too much."

FEW ALONE

It is unusual, even in Istanbul and Ankara, for a woman to go alone to a restaurant. Women in both towns are often recommended to take great care when driving alone in a taxi, especially in the evenings.

Reports of rape, abduction, and assaults on women are frequent in the newspapers. These, and other sex stories, are prominently displayed, and often contain more details than a Western European newspaper would print.

A short time ago, there were several reports of attacks on young girls or of bigamous "marriages" by imams, the moslem prayer-leaders. Indeed, the imam, prayer-leader in hand, pursuing someone young became one of the favourite targets of newspaper cartoonists. One cartoon showed an imam sitting with a girl on his knee while several members of the mob dragged off a protesting woman. The caption referred to an unprintable Turkish proverb which might be euphemistically rendered as "when the imam slips, the congregation falls."

Visitors to Istanbul are often impressed by the total absence of prostitutes on its streets. Public soliciting is not allowed in Turkey. But there is licensed prostitution.

This is the notorious Abanos Sokak. Its proximity to an area much frequented by tourists is regarded by some Istanbul residents as highly undesirable, and there have in the past been proposals to move the brothels to the suburbs. So far, however, nothing has come of them. —China Mail Special.

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FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

"VIETNAM" sailing Dec. 31st
"CAMBODGE" sailing Feb. 25th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE

"MEKONG" (1) sailing Jan. 9th
"DONAI" sailing Feb. 11th
(1) will call at London

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

MANDRAKE, YOU ARE A LAZY ONE! BUT I MUST SAY THIS IS FUN.

I LOVE TO SAIL! MANDRAKE - LOOK OUT THERE!

TALK ABOUT MAGIC!

Have you seen **Admiral** AIR CONDITIONERS AND REFRIGERATORS

FERD'NAND

By Mik

BUY NOW THIS SOUP MOVES FAST

I'LL SAY IT MOVES FAST

JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins

GO TAKE A BATH, OLD MAN! I NEED THIS GONDOLA MORE THAN YOU DO!

HERE YOU IN BOAT & WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU! GET INTO STARTING POSITION IMMEDIATELY!

LOOK, MISTER, I'VE GOT ENOUGH TROUBLES WITHOUT RACING IN THESE WATERS! NOT ROOM!

ERBON HAZARD - BEHIND US - WE'RE COMING!

I SEE HIM! LOOKS LIKE WE'RE RACING! WHETHER WE WIN OR NOT... AND SECOND PLACE PAYS COP IN BULLETS!

BLACK MAGIC

ASSORTED CHOCOLATES

BE HEALTHY

(more vitamin C)

BE WEALTHY

(amazingly economical)

AND WISE

(the name you trust)

Sibby's FROZEN ORANGE JUICE

San Miguel

...this situation calls for a San Miguel

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EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight - refrigerator - passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"BRADEVERETT" Arrives Jan. 4 from Manila. Sails Jan. 5 for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta.

"LENEVERETT" Arrives Jan. 14 from Manila. Sails Jan. 15 for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon, Calcutta & Chittagong.

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EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight - refrigerator - passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf.

"STAR ALCYONE" Arrives Jan. 5 from Cebu. Sails Jan. 6 for Kobe & Yokohama.

"THAI" Arrives Jan. 11 from Japan. Sails Jan. 12 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Basrah, Kuwait & Bahrain.

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All-Australian Wedding At The Abbey

London, Dec. 29. Miss Judith White, youngest daughter of the Australian High Commissioner, in London, Sir Thomas White, was married here today in the first all-Australian wedding in Westminster Abbey.

The bride, 25, became the wife of Dr Geoffrey Huxley of Melbourne. About 300 invited guests filled the main Chapel and hundreds of London housewives peered the pavement outside the Abbey to see the bride.

She wore an Elizabethan gown of ivory brocade and her grandmother's veil held in place by a Tudor coronet of orange blossoms and mistletoe.

The ceremony was performed by the Dean of Westminster, Dr Gordon Don, assisted by the Rev. Canon Howard Hollis, formerly of Melbourne, formerly of London, and the Rev. Canon of St. Andrew's, St. Andrew's, London.

The ceremony was performed by the Dean of Westminster, Dr Gordon Don, assisted by the Rev. Canon Howard Hollis, formerly of Melbourne, formerly of London, and the Rev. Canon of St. Andrew's, St. Andrew's, London.

TRADE AND COMMERCE SECTION
ECONOMIC FORECAST

Russians Will Aggravate Capitalist Nations To Stop Commercial Development

By Warren Lee Piorson

The following forecast of world economic developments in 1955 was written for the United Press by Mr. Warren Lee Piorson, President of the U.S. Council of the International Chamber of Commerce.

New York, Dec. 29. In American international relations the focal point of attention during the coming year will almost certainly rest on economic affairs.

Having arrived at a diplomatic and military impasse, the cold war between the coalition of free nations and the Communist autocracy will be fought, at least temporarily, on the economic front.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York, Dec. 29. Sustained heavy demand for blue chips lifted industrial stocks through the 400-mark in their average with ease today.

So enthusiastic was the buying, volume shot up to 4,430,000 shares—most applications since Dec. 18, 1950 when 3,400,000 shares changed hands.

Reporting tickers ran late for most of the first hour of trading. Briefly after noon and again in the final minutes.

Industrials topped the 400-mark with nearly two points to spare—closing at a new historic high of 401.97.

Contributing directly to this increase were issues such as General Motors, up 2 1/2 points, Bethlehem Steel, up 1 1/2, U.S. Steel, 1 1/2 higher, and National Steel 1 1/2 higher.

Outside the average group there were even sharper individual gains—ranging to 4 1/2 points in U.S. Hoffman Machinery.

Fields set a record, too, climbing 0.87 to their best level since July 3, 1931.

The market was one of the broadest on record, with 1,207 issues traded—748 of these higher, 236 unchanged and 293 lower.

All industrial groups took part in the rise with steels, non-ferrous metals, aircrafts, some motors, oil, chemical, television stocks, building shares, and a host of specials featuring.

High-priced Amerada climbed more than 4 in the oils. Some stocks received additional impetus in the form of good news. Carrier ran up 2 1/4 on good earnings.

The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was \$3,700,000 today closed 1 to 3 points higher with sales of 123 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed 2 points higher to 1 point lower with sales of 147 contracts. Steadiness in world contracts reflected trade buying on balance and steadiness in the raw market.

World No. 4 sugar futures today closed 1 to 3 points higher with sales of 123 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed 2 points higher to 1 point lower with sales of 147 contracts.

World Rubber Markets

Singapore, Dec. 29. The rubber market opened slightly lower on disappointing overseas advices but later prices advanced sharply in speculative buying with sellers very reserved.

There was little profit taking towards the close. Future closing: No. 1 rubber per lb. Jan. 90 1/2-91, Feb. 90 1/2-91, Mar. 90 1/2-91, Apr. 90 1/2-91, May 90 1/2-91, Jun. 90 1/2-91, Jul. 90 1/2-91, Aug. 90 1/2-91, Sep. 90 1/2-91, Oct. 90 1/2-91, Nov. 90 1/2-91, Dec. 90 1/2-91.

Spot rubber unbleached 90-91, Black crepe 90-91, No. 1 pale crepe 100 1/2-101 1/2.

Speculative buying and covering by dealers sent prices skyrocketing to seasonal highs. Strength of London-Singapore markets generated the main buying power.

In the spot market, dealers estimated sales between 700 and 800 tons. Reported transactions included three sheets for January at 33 1/2 cents; four sheets for January 33 1/2 and 33 1/2; flat bark for January 27 1/2 cents; one sheet for February at 33 1/2 cents and three sheets for March at 32 1/2 cents a pound.

Spot No. 1 Rss sheets moved up to 33 1/2 cents a pound, nominal. Future closing: Mar. 33.40, Apr. 33.40, May 33.40, Jun. 33.40, Jul. 33.40, Aug. 33.40, Sep. 33.40, Oct. 33.40, Nov. 33.40, Dec. 33.40.

The market was firm with spot quoted at 28 1/2 pence per lb. Prices: No. 1 Raw spot 28 1/2-29, Feb. 29 1/2-30, Mar. 30 1/2-31, Apr. 31 1/2-32, May 32 1/2-33, Jun. 33 1/2-34, Jul. 34 1/2-35, Aug. 35 1/2-36, Sep. 36 1/2-37, Oct. 37 1/2-38, Nov. 38 1/2-39, Dec. 39 1/2-40.

General market of basic ports: Jan. 27 1/2-28 1/2, Feb. 28 1/2-29 1/2, Mar. 29 1/2-30 1/2, Apr. 30 1/2-31 1/2, May 31 1/2-32 1/2, Jun. 32 1/2-33 1/2, Jul. 33 1/2-34 1/2, Aug. 34 1/2-35 1/2, Sep. 35 1/2-36 1/2, Oct. 36 1/2-37 1/2, Nov. 37 1/2-38 1/2, Dec. 38 1/2-39 1/2.

Latex crepe sheet Jan. 27 1/2-28 1/2, Feb. 28 1/2-29 1/2, Mar. 29 1/2-30 1/2, Apr. 30 1/2-31 1/2, May 31 1/2-32 1/2, Jun. 32 1/2-33 1/2, Jul. 33 1/2-34 1/2, Aug. 34 1/2-35 1/2, Sep. 35 1/2-36 1/2, Oct. 36 1/2-37 1/2, Nov. 37 1/2-38 1/2, Dec. 38 1/2-39 1/2.

Latex crepe sheet Jan. 27 1/2-28 1/2, Feb. 28 1/2-29 1/2, Mar. 29 1/2-30 1/2, Apr. 30 1/2-31 1/2, May 31 1/2-32 1/2, Jun. 32 1/2-33 1/2, Jul. 33 1/2-34 1/2, Aug. 34 1/2-35 1/2, Sep. 35 1/2-36 1/2, Oct. 36 1/2-37 1/2, Nov. 37 1/2-38 1/2, Dec. 38 1/2-39 1/2.

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HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$888,300.70. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

Table with columns: SHARES BUYERS, SELLERS, SALES. Includes entries for Union, K. Wharf, Wheelock, etc.

Table with columns: LAND, ETC. Includes entries for HK Land, Humpreys, etc.

Table with columns: UTILITIES. Includes entries for Tram, etc.

Table with columns: Macao Elec, Telephone. Includes entries for Macao Elec, Telephone, etc.

Table with columns: INDUSTRIALS. Includes entries for Cement, etc.

Table with columns: STORES, ETC. Includes entries for Dairy X, etc.

Table with columns: COTTONS. Includes entries for Textile Corp, etc.

Table with columns: MISCELLANEOUS. Includes entries for Yangtze, etc.

Table with columns: Allied. Includes entries for Allied, etc.

Table with columns: NEW YORK. Includes entries for Spot, Mar, May, etc.

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Table with columns: SAO PAULO. Includes entries for Cotton futures, etc.

Table with columns: KARACHI. Includes entries for Cotton futures, etc.

Table with columns: Exchange Rates. Includes entries for various currencies.

NETHERLANDS STATE LOAN

Amsterdam, Dec. 29. The Netherlands is issuing a 3 1/2 per cent state loan to consolidate the floating debt and finance redemption of the foreign debt, according to the prospectus released at the Hague.

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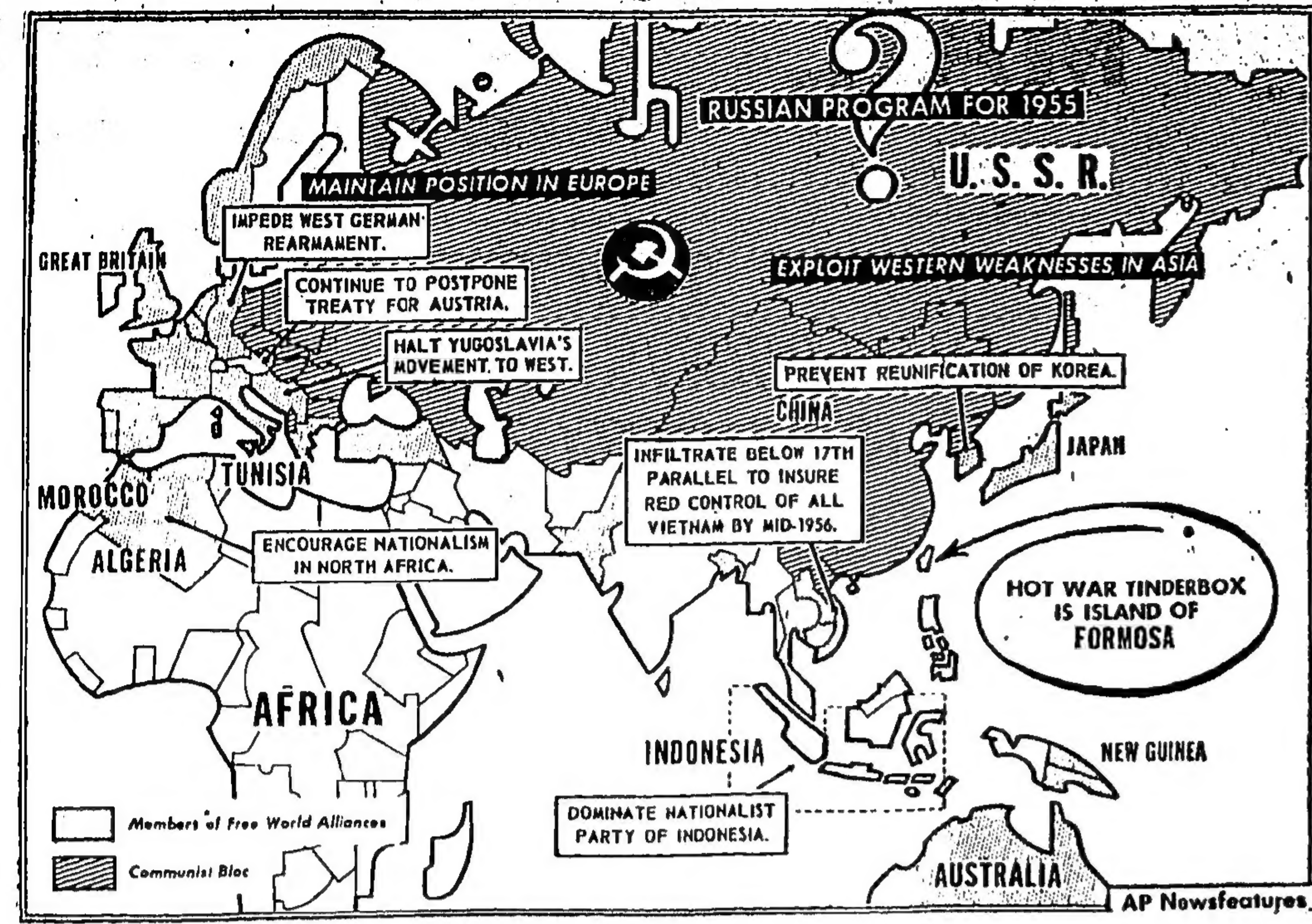
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Russian Programme For 1955: Hold Line In Europe; Expand Influence In Asia

By WILLIAM L. RYAN, Associated Press Foreign News Analyst

Prospect for 1955: No war and no peace.

Western statesmen, as 1954 draws to a close, appear resigned to the idea that the world must live for some time in a state of cold war.

The chances for the hot war—World War III—seem to have receded. Yet there is little doubt the two principal antagonists in the global political conflict—the Soviet Union and the United States—are worried about the possibility they might stumble into the big fight against their wills.

As the accompanying map shows, the Russian programme for the coming year will have two main directions and will be tailored to meet conditions in its two major fields.

In Europe, where there is a real revolutionary situation, the Communists must be satisfied with maintaining the status quo and attempting to neutralize the present allies of the United States.

The purposes may include: 1. To frighten the Soviet Union. There have been many hints that the Chinese Communists are far from satisfied with the amount of military and economic aid forthcoming from Moscow.

2. To excuse the internal Chinese programme. The announced programme internally is "1 for the army." In order to excuse this, a threat must exist. The threat is Formosa and the Chinese Nationalists. The result is a harsh economic policy of industrialization requiring even more belt-tightening and austerity for the Chinese people, even more export of their badly needed food in exchange for the sinews for industry.

3. To assert the Chinese claim to leadership in Asia and deliver as much indignity as possible to the United States short of the point where war becomes a real risk.

The political war must continue. Therefore the Communists, although they may make gestures indicating willingness to negotiate, cannot be expected to permit the reunification of Korea, and that will remain a point of friction.

Indo-China remains a prime target, despite the Geneva conference agreement ending the shooting there. The Communist Vietnam can be expected to continue infiltrating and subverting below the 17th parallel dividing line. Elections are scheduled in mid-1955, and the Red programme appears to aim at instigating Communist domination of all Vietnam by then.

In Indonesia, the Communists work patiently for a distant goal—a gradual increase in their influence over the small intellectual group which makes and unmakes governments and a gradual step-up in their influence in the government itself.

Already the Nationalist party government leans on an alliance with the Communists. The Red aim will be to push it more and more to the Communist side of the line in the international political conflict, into nothing less than neutrality and if possible into implicit alliance with the Red world.

Chances for a treaty of independence for Austria seem no brighter in view of Moscow's threats regarding Western European defence arrangements. Lines of communication with satellite nations through Austria continue to loom importantly for Moscow.

The wooing of Yugoslavia will be stepped up, also, to produce a degree of neutralism with the aim of breaking, or severely straining an important link in the Western chain of defenses, the Balkan pact linking Yugoslavia with Greece and Turkey.

Neutrality

Neutrality will be the keynote of Russian manoeuvres in Europe, particularly in Germany. The lure of possible unification will be used as a weapon against the West German.

What, then, have the Chinese been up to? The war-like talk and truculent gestures seem to have several purposes.

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Ike's Supporters For Repeal Of Buy American Act

Washington, Dec. 29. President Eisenhower and supporters of his programme for liberalized foreign trade will not fight for a modification or repeal of the restrictive "Buy American" Act in the new session of Congress, officials said today.

The President has already modified the Act by an executive order and the administration's economic advisers feel that it would not be worth while to provoke a new storm in Congress by pressing for an alteration or repeal of the Act.

DEPRESSION MOVE. The "Buy American" Act, passing during the days of America's depression, required Government agencies buying supplies and awarding contracts to give preference to American industries if the prices were not more than 25 per cent above those of foreign buyers.

The President's executive order issued on December 17 lowers the margin required by law to between six and 10 per cent.

A leading opponent of the "Buy American" Act in Congress, Mr. Frank Smith (Democrat, Mississippi) said today that he will not now lead a drive for the Act's repeal, in the new session of Congress because the President's order "pretty well" took care of the situation.

Mr. Smith said today, "The recent award of an electrical contract to a British concern for a generator on a water project in Arkansas sets the pattern."

When President Eisenhower proposed a revision of the Act last March he ran into powerful opposition in the Republican-controlled Congress. No Act of Congress has been passed since.

Until the new executive order it had been assumed that the proposal would be repeated in the new Democrat-controlled session of Congress in January as part of the Administration's liberal trade and tariff policy.

The dropping of this proposal could be regarded as a concession to the protectionists.

The President has already announced that he will ask Congress for a three-year extension of the tariff-cutting reciprocal trade agreements act with authority to lower import duties on certain items by 15 per cent below present levels.

This is the same proposal the President made earlier this year, when he was forced by protectionist pressure to accept an extension of only one year (to next June) without any power to make additional tariff cuts.

Mr. Daniel Reed, a Republican, who played a major role in blocking the proposal then, has already announced that he is ready to continue the fight next year—Reuters.

SHARPER GAINS

Outside the average group there were even sharper individual gains—ranging to 4 1/2 points in U.S. Hoffman Machinery.

Fields set a record, too, climbing 0.87 to their best level since July 3, 1931.

The market was one of the broadest on record, with 1,207 issues traded—748 of these higher, 236 unchanged and 293 lower.

All industrial groups took part in the rise with steels, non-ferrous metals, aircrafts, some motors, oil, chemical, television stocks, building shares, and a host of specials featuring.

High-priced Amerada climbed more than 4 in the oils. Some stocks received additional impetus in the form of good news. Carrier ran up 2 1/4 on good earnings.

The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was \$3,700,000 today closed 1 to 3 points higher with sales of 123 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed 2 points higher to 1 point lower with sales of 147 contracts. Steadiness in world contracts reflected trade buying on balance and steadiness in the raw market.

World No. 4 sugar futures today closed 1 to 3 points higher with sales of 123 contracts.

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New York Foreign Exchange

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AMSTERDAM

The market was firm. Prices closed today in guilders per dollar as follows:

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